

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians

Elder's Commission

2nd Quarterly Report

April – May - June

2018



Commissioners

Richard Wemigwase, Chairman

Lisa Flynn, Vice-Chairman

Debra Smithkey-Browne, Secretary

Janice Shackleford, Treasurer

JoAnn Carey, Commissioner

The Elder's Commission meetings are open meetings and the Commission encourages membership attendance and participation.

The Elder's Commission meetings are held monthly on the first Wednesday of each month, meetings begin at 5 p.m. unless posted otherwise. All meetings are held at the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Government Center in Conference Room 312, unless otherwise stated.

The Elder's Department Director Arlene Naganashe retired in April after many years of service to the Tribe. It has been a pleasure to work so closely with Arlene, as the Elder Department Director. She is an amazing lady and we are honored to have had the privilege to be a part of the Elders Department under her supervision. Wishing her the best on her future endeavors.

Mary Roberts is the new Elder's Department Director. The Elders Commission welcomes Mary to her new position. The Commission and Director have established a line of communication to discuss issues and concerns of the Elders Department and Community members. The Elder's Commission will continue to work with the Department to address, review and discuss department issues and concerns. The Commission will assist and support the department in reaching resolution wherever possible and work to strive with LTBB membership's best interest in mind.

The Michigan Indian Elder Association (MIEA), quarterly meeting was held on April 9-11, 2018 in Petoskey, MI, LTBB was the Host Tribe. The MIEA consists of representatives from tribes in Michigan and Quarterly meetings are hosted by different MI tribes each quarter. The Elder's Commission worked with the Elder Department to ensure the Conference was a success for conference attendees. Many items were donated for the Silent Auction and welcome bags for hand out during registration. A raffle was held

for a Pendleton Blanket, ticket sales were better than expected and tickets were sold out for the raffle. Between the Silent Auction and the Raffle LTBB raised over \$3,000 for the MIEA Scholarship Program. LTBB provided a Traditional Feast for the Delegates dinner that was held at the LTBB Government Building on Monday, April 9, 2018. LTBB members volunteered to cook for the dinner and donated the food LTBB Natural Resource Department donated Whitefish, a ham was donated and there was plenty of side dishes and Fry Bread. The dinner was greatly appreciated by all that attended, LTBB received rave reviews and compliments on the dinner.

The next MIEA meeting will be held by the Hannahville Indian Community in Wilson, MI. July 16 – 18, 2018 the conference will be attended by Debra Smithkey-Browne, Secretary and Richard Wemigwase, MIEA Delegate.

The Elders Commission attended the LTBB Annual Community Meeting on May 19, 2018 in Petoskey at the Odawa Casino. JoAnn Carey distributed raffle tickets (free of charge) to meeting attendees for items that were donated. The Elders Commission would like to thank JoAnn Carey for coming up with the idea for the special raffle and for the time she has spent handing out raffle tickets and conducting the raffle. Feast Bag, pendant and jewelry were the prizes given away to the ticket holders.

Material for tobacco pouches was donated to the Archives and Records Department, to be used for tribal members when needed for ceremonies or whatever might come up for tribal families.

- The Material has been cut into squares and are ready for tobacco to be added.
- JoAnn Carey donated the material on behalf of the Elders Commission.

Meetings attended by the Elders Commission:

- April 6, 2018 Regular Elders Commission Meeting
- April 9-11, 2018 MIEA Quarterly Conference – Petoskey, MI
- May 2, 2018 Regular Elders Commission Meeting
- June 6, 2018 Regular Elders Commission Meeting

Upcoming Meeting Schedule:

- July 10, 2018 (rescheduled because of July 4th Holiday) Regular Elders Commission Meeting
- July 16-18, 2018 MIEA Quarterly Conference, Hannahville Indian Community
- August 1, 2018 Regular Elders Commission Meeting
- September 5, 2018 Regular Elders Commission Meeting

The commissioners are dedicated to establishing a line of communication with the Elders Department and assist the department to the best of our abilities in the future.

The commissioners would like to thank Tribal Council for their appointments to the Elder's Commission.

